Remarks

The above preliminary amendment is made to cancel claims 1-31 and add new

claims 32-50.

A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith. However, the

World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in

the U.S. Patent Office.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication

page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as

required by U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein

be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination

and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this

communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P.

Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

Respectfully submitted,

23552 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Dated: December 13, 2004

Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/acp

6